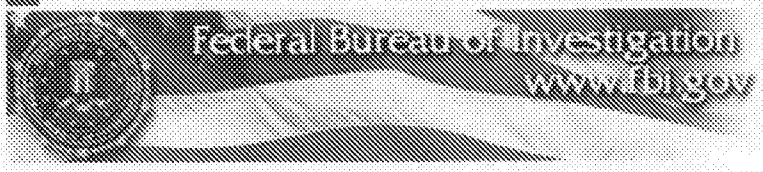
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOI/PA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET
FOI/PA# 1511180-000

Total Deleted Page(s) = 3
Page 1 ~ Referral/Consult;
Page 2 ~ Referral/Consult;
Page 3 ~ Referral/Consult;

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X Deleted Page(s) X
X No Duplication Fee X
X For this Page X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX



EXTRA

On 5/6, Deputy Director Bruce Gebhardt paid tribute to local, state, and federal law enforcement officers--some of who have made the ultimate sacrifice--as part of this week's observance of National Police Week.

FBI Priorities
About Us
Press Room
What We Investigate
Counterterrorism
Most Wanted
Law Enforcement Services
Your Local FBI Office
Reports & Publications
FBI History
For the Family
Employment
Kids Page
Search
Home

PIRATES OF THE INTERNET
International Law Enforcement Sails After Criminal Warez Groups

Let's get one thing straight: we're not talking here about kids who make the occasional illegal download of a popular song from the Internet and share it with friends (though that, of course, is wrong).

We're talking about big business--professionals who get up in the morning and put in a day of stealing copyrighted music, movies, games, and software from the Internet, processing them, and distributing them through peer-to-peer (P2P) or file-sharing networks.

Submit A Tip
Apply Today
Links
Contact Us
Site Map
Privacy Policy

How do these "businesses" work? Known as "warez release groups," these syndicates are highly organized:

- plants in music, film, and software industries supply the newest/hottest items to the groups.
- "crackers" strip out the embedded source codes and insert new trademarks.
- "Q&A" test the product to make sure it works.
- distributors transmit the items through networks.

"Executives" not only control these day-to-day operations, they also recruit new members, manage archive sites, and shield their illegal operations from law enforcement with sophisticated encryption.

What's the harm? Economic harm. Online piracy and trading of music, movies, business, and gaming software adds up to lost revenues--enough to put companies out of business, lose jobs, negatively impact the economy, and, in the end, take money out of **your** pockets as the losses are passed on to you, the consumer, in the form of higher prices.

Not just a U.S. crime problem. These acts of piracy are executed on an international stage--and they they need an international law enforcement response. Last month, they got one: **OPERATION FASTLINK**, the largest global enforcement action ever undertaken against online piracy.

Director Mueller testifies before the 9-11 Commission on the issue of whether to create a new MI5-style intelligence agency: "Splitting the law enforcement and the intel functions would leave both agencies fighting the war on terrorism with one hand tied behind their backs."

Recent Stories

Announcements

On 5/14, the National Criminal Intelligence Sharing Plan was announced jointly by local, state, tribal, and federal law enforcement agencies. Read this fact sheet for additional information on the plan.

On 5/14, a national law enforcement initiative to crack down on child pornography over peer-to-peer networks was announced. Read what Deputy Assistant Director Keith Lourdeau had to say about the FBI's role.

On 5/14, a new photo of Karim El Mejjati has been added to the War on Terrorism/Seeking Information section of this site.

On 5/12, the Preliminary Statistics for Law Enforcement Officers killed in 2003 were released.

On 5/13, 13 people charged in Atlanta with alleged $20 million mortgage fraud scheme.

On 5/12, former FBI counterintelligence agent pled guilty to making false statements.

On 5/12, a San Antonio, TX, businessman and physician were arrested in alleged multimillion dollar Medicare fraud.

5/12 Response to queries regarding Berg interviews.

On 5/11, four pled guilty in a $170 million bank scheme, one of the largest bank/corporate fraud cases

b6
b7C

Today's FBI.gov home page.

SAC
ASA

215B-NH-42169-143

in writing or via telephone and we will work with you to make the information available.

Federal Bureau of Investigation.
Attention: Content Manager, FBI Home Page
935 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 7350
Washington, DC 20535
(202) 324-3000

On April 21st of this year, the FBI and our international law enforcement partners conducted some 120 searches in 31 states and 10 countries to dismantle some of the best known and most aggressive online piracy enterprises. We seized over 200 computers and servers, including some that actually housed hundreds of thousands of copies of pirated works. We've identified nearly 100 leaders in these groups and expect that number to go much higher in the days ahead.

We hope you'll help. Please take time to learn more about the law and policy on cyber crimes. To report cyber crimes, please contact your local FBI Field Office or file a complaint through the Internet Crime Complain Center.

Related links: FBI press release | DOJ press release

- **Law Enforcement: It Truly *is* a Family: Sharing Just One of Many Heartwarming Stories During National Police Week**
- **National Police Week, May 9-15, 2004: Director Mueller Honors "Extraordinary Accomplishments by Extraordinary People"**
- **Terrorist Financing and Money Laundering Investigations - A Global Enterprise**
- **A Byte Out of History: 70 Years Ago Rise of Fascism leads to FBI Casework**
- **FBI Adds Colombian Drug Cartel Leader to Most Wanted Fugitive List**
- **Understanding Counterterrorism Issues: FBI Testimony on our Use of the "Material Support" Statute**
- **Violence in the Name of the Environment: The Case of the Calculating Eco-terrorist**
- **The Terrorist Threat Integration Center: One Year Later**
- **21st Century Bank Robbery: The Case of the Chinese Embezzlers**
- **Building a Network Against International Terrorism and Crime: Director Mueller Confers with Colleagues in Beijing, Hong Kong, and Tokyo**
- **Cassandra Chandler Talks About Today's FBI: The Inside Story**
- **Building an Intelligence Network to Meet Today's Threat Environment - FBI Intelligence Executive Maureen Baginski Talks About It**

ever prosecuted in South Florida.

On 5/11, an Austin bank executive pled guilty in a NASCAR scam.

On 5/11, two Phoenix men were arrested in alleged nationwide investment scam.

$100,000 reward offered for info in Jonathan Luna case.

New E-Scams and Warnings

Issue: Can the FBI look at your library records any time they want? The Bureau responds to your concerns.

Freedom of Information Act

The White House

FirstGov

Some of these publications are in PDF (Portable Document Format). To view them you will need to have the Adobe Acrobat Reader plug-in installed on your computer. The Reader can be downloaded at no cost from Adobe's site on the World Wide Web.

If you have difficulty accessing any material on this site because of a disability, please contact us

FD-302 (Rev. 10-6-95)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 06/02/2004

Individual [redacted] provided the following information: b5 b6 b7C b7D

[redacted]

Investigation on 6/2/2004 at [redacted] (telephonically) b6 b7C b7D b7E

File # [redacted] 295B-NH-42874 55 Date dictated 6/2/2004

by SA [redacted] [redacted]

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FD-302 (Rev. 10-6-95)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 05/27/2004

Individual [redacted] provided the following information:

b5
b6
b7C
b7D

[redacted]

Investigation on 5/27/2004 at [redacted] (telephonically)

File # [redacted] 295B-NH-42874 -54 Date dictated 5/27/2004

by SA [redacted]

b6
b7C
b7D
b7E

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

P 5/28/04

OPERATION FAST LINK
MC 209 Sweep

[redacted]

[redacted]

b3
b6
b7C
b7E

collect copyrighted music, movies and gaming software. OPERATION FAST LINK, MAJOR CASE 209, was coordinated through FBIHQ in which five warez organizations were taken down simultaneously. The FBI executed [redacted] warrants in the U.S. From those warrants [redacted] computers and [redacted] servers were seized. Field offices did not have the CART personnel to examine numerous computers seized during this operation; 3) **LEGATS:** Through IPR conferences attended by FBIHQ personnel and liaisons established with industry, [redacted] have continued to be challenging countries to work IPR investigation based on their lack of support from law enforcement and/or their lack of knowledge/skills to investigate or prosecute IPR laws.

b7E

SSA - CY - 2

Cyber Crime Section
Director's Daily Report
October 8, 2004

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS ATTORNEY GENERAL TASK FORCE

UPDATE: During the week of October 12, 2004, Attorney General John Ashcroft will announce the recommendations his IPR Task Force developed during their six month collection of IPR information. The following recommendations have been presented to the FBI for consideration:

1) Expand the number of agents dedicated to intellectual property investigations; 2) Increase the number of computer forensic examiners and analysts who can examine digital evidence in intellectual property theft cases; 3) Co-locate Legal Attaches with intellectual property expertise in Legats [redacted] to assist Intellectual Property Law Enforcement Coordinators (IPLECs) with investigations. b7E

BACKGROUND: In April 2004, the Attorney General initiated an IP Task Force under the leadership of Deputy Chief of Staff/Counselor to the Attorney General David M. Israelite. The primary mission of the task force at its inception was to gather background information on the IPR crime problem from various U.S. government entities and ascertain what collective enforcement efforts were/are being undertaken. The task force is comprised of two sections – 1) Policy and Decision Making and 2) Investigation and Enforcement. Although designated a "task force," this entity can more correctly be described as a working group/fact finding body headed by Mr. Israelite and dedicated to focusing on the IPR crime problem, demonstrating that it is a priority issue for the Attorney General and recommending policy.

Since April 2004, the Cyber Division, in coordination with the Office of General Counsel, has on numerous occasions provided detailed information to the task force regarding investigations and initiatives being undertaken within the FBI's IPR sub-program; the joint FBI-ICE IPR Center located at the Reagan Building (including a tour of this facility by Mr. Israelite) and domestic and international IPR training conducted by the FBI. General Counsel Valerie Caproni is the principal FBI representative on the task force. As such, Ms. Caproni maintains continuing contact with Cyber Division personnel regarding IPR-related task force issues.

In response to the Attorney General's recommendations, the following information is provided: 1) **Resources:** The FBI currently has [redacted] agents throughout the field divisions burning resources towards the intellectual property rights program; 2) **CART personnel:** Many of the IP investigations are becoming more Cyber related. For instance, warez organizations, the use of Internet servers to host, distribute trade and b7E